

AN ADDITION TO THE FLORA OF THE GASPE PENINSULA

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Recently the Curator of Jesup Herbarium has been checking the determination of specimens collected by Mrs. Elizabeth Sherrard in the Gaspe Peninsula in 1946. Among the grasses is a specimen of *Cenchrus longispinus* (Hack.) Fernald collected at Perce July 9-10. Failing to find even the genus *Cenchrus* listed in Frere Marie-Victorin's Flora Laurenienne (1935) or in H. S. Scoggan's Flora of Bic and the Gaspe Peninsula (1950), a specimen was sent to the Canadian National Herbarium, Ottawa, Canada. In his letter of acknowledgment, Dr. John M. Gillett, Curator, Vascular Plant Section, wrote, "As far as I am aware it is a first for the Gaspe. We have a record from Quebec City but that is all for Quebec. I also checked the Agriculture Canada Herbarium (DAO) and they have nothing at all from Quebec." A note from Dr. S. P. vander Kloet, Curator of the Smith Herbarium at Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S. reads, "This genus has not been collected in any of the Maritime Provinces; at least we have no specimen in the herbarium." A number of accounts of botanizing in the Gaspe Peninsula have been published in Rhodora but a search of the Rhodora Indices discloses no listing of even the genus *Cenchrus*.

It seems probable that in 1946 this species was an adventive waif in the area. The fruit is certainly well adapted for distribution on the clothing of tourists, although in 1946 the Gaspe was not the popular tourist region it became later. Also, both the nature of the fruit and the frequent beach habitat of the species make it a likely subject for transport by either the plumage or the feet of shore birds so numerous in the region of Perce. It would be very interesting to learn if the species persisted in the area. The only two specimens collected are deposited in the Canadian National Herbarium and Jesup Herbarium as vouchers.

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